

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2 and 14 without prejudice and amend claims 1-10, 12, 13, and 15-22 as follows.

B 1. (Currently Amended) Method of initiating services in a telecommunications network including at least one switching point and at least two control points for controlling services, ~~which~~ wherein said control points each have a unique address, ~~in which method~~ and wherein a service request is sent by the switching point to ~~the~~ a control point in order to initiate a service, the method comprising:

setting at least two control point addresses ~~are set to which~~ to send a service request; and

sending the service request ~~is sent~~ to the control point addresses set one at a time, until the service is initiated at one of the addresses, wherein the service request is sent to an address and when the address does not initiate the service, the service request is sent to another address, until the service is initiated at one of the addresses.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein providing from the at least one control point ~~provides the switching point with congestion information~~ to the switching point, in which

the service request is sent to one address selected on the basis of the congestion information; and

when this address does not initiate the service, the service request is sent to another address selected on the basis of the congestion information, until the service is initiated at one of the addresses.

B 4. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the telecommunications network is an intelligent network and the addresses are set in the trigger data of ~~IN~~-intelligent services.

5. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 2 1, wherein a priority indication is attached to the addresses set and another address is selected on basis of the priority indication.

6. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 2 1, wherein the service request is sent to another address when the previous address does not respond.

7. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 2 1, wherein the service request is sent to another address when the previous address refuses to initiate the service.

8. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1. wherein the re-sending of the service request is ~~controlled~~ restricted by a limit.

9. (Currently Amended) Method of initiating services in a telecommunications network including at least one switching point and at least two control points for controlling services, ~~which~~ wherein the control points each have a unique address, ~~in which method~~ and wherein and wherein a service request is sent by the switching point to ~~the~~ a control point in order to initiate a service, and the switching point has congestion information of at least one control point, the method comprising:

setting at least two control point addresses ~~are set to which~~ to send a service request ~~can be sent~~;

sending a the service request ~~is sent~~ to a control point address selected on the basis of the congestion information,

wherein the service request is sent to an address selected on the basis of the congestion information and when the address does not initiate the service, the service request is sent to another address selected on the basis of the congestion information, until the service is initiated at one of the addresses.

10. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 9, wherein the congestion information is sent by at least one control point, ~~which~~ wherein the congestion information restricts the rate ~~at which~~ the service requests are sent to ~~this~~ the control point.

11. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 9, wherein the congestion information is based on the number of service requests sent by the switching point to the control point.

12. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 10, wherein the address ~~which still has~~ having free capacity according to the congestion information selected.

13. (Currently Amended) Method according to Claim 9, wherein the address ~~which has~~ having the least restricting congestion information is selected.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 14 9, ~~wherein~~ further comprising

setting a maximum number for initiation attempts ~~is set~~,
~~it is checked~~ checking whether the service is initiated at the latest address,
~~it is checked~~ checking whether the maximum number or initiation attempts is reached, and
and

sending the service request ~~is sent~~ to another address selected on the basis of the congestion information, until ~~the result of one of the checks is "true"~~ the service is initiated or the maximum number of initiation attempts is reached.

16. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 14 9, wherein the service request is sent to another address when the previous address does not respond.

17. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 14 9, wherein the service request is sent to another address when the previous address refuses to initiate the service.

18. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 9, wherein the telecommunications network is an intelligent network and the addresses are set in the trigger data of ~~IN~~ intelligent services.

19. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications network including at least one switching point, at least two control points for controlling services, ~~which~~ wherein the control points each have a unique address, and a database for storing information

relating to services, ~~in which~~ and wherein the switching point sends a service request to ~~the a~~ control point in order to initiate a service, the network comprising:

~~wherein~~

means for storing in the database at least two control point addresses ~~are~~
~~stored to which~~ to send a service request ~~can be sent~~; and

means for adapting the switching point ~~is adapted~~ to send a the service request
B to the set control point addresses one at a time, until the service is initiated at one of the
control point addresses,

wherein the service request is sent to an address and when the address does not
initiate the service, the service request is sent to another address, until the service is
initiated at one of the addresses.

20. (Currently Amended) A switching point for a telecommunications network including at least one switching point, at least two control points for controlling services, ~~which~~ wherein the control points each have a unique address, and a database for storing information relating to services, ~~in which network~~ wherein the switching point sends a service request to the a control point in order to initiate a service, the switching point comprising: wherein the switching point is adapted

means to receive a list of at least two control point addresses ~~to which~~ that a service request ~~can be~~ is sent; and

means to send the a service request to the set control point addresses one at a time, until the service is initiated at one of the control point addresses,

wherein the service request is sent to an address and when the address does not initiate the service, the service request is sent to another address, until the service initiated at one of the addresses.

B 21. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications network including at least one switching point, at least two control points for controlling services, ~~which~~ wherein the control points each have a unique address, and a database for storing information relating to services, ~~in which~~ and wherein the switching point sends a service request to the control point in order to initiate a service and the switching point has congestion information of at least one control point, the network comprising:

~~wherein~~ in the database, at least two control point addresses are stored ~~to which~~ that a service request can be sent; and

the switching point is adapted to send a the service request to a control point address selected on the basis of the congestion information,

wherein the service request is sent to an address selected on the basis of the congestion information and when the address does not initiate the service, the service request is sent to another address selected on the basis of the congestion information, until the service is initiated at one of the addresses.

22. (Currently Amended) A switching point for a telecommunications network including at least one switching point, at least two control points for controlling services, ~~which~~ wherein the control points each have a unique address, and a database for storing information relating to services, ~~in which network~~ and wherein the switching

point sends a service request to ~~the~~ a control point in order to initiate a service and the switching point has congestion information of at least one control point, the switching point comprising: wherein the switching point is adapted

means to receive a list of at least two control point addresses ~~to which~~ that a service request ~~can be~~ is sent; and

8 means to send a the service request to a control point address selected on the basis of the congestion information,

wherein the service request is sent to an address selected on the basis of the congestion information and when the address does not initiate the service, the service request is sent to another address selected on the basis of the congestion information, until the service is initiated at one of the addresses.
